Application No. 09/823,991
Amendment dated: February 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated November 10, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended)   A method for establishing a communication path in a data-driven communication system, comprising:

defining a ~~first relationship between~~ a first layer agent, a first set of predetermined policies for linking the first layer agent to ~~and~~ a second layer agent, and a second ~~relationship between~~ set of predetermined policies for linking the second layer agent ~~and~~ to a third layer agent;

receiving, at the first layer agent, data related to a communication;

invoking a first policy of the first set of predetermined policies in accordance with the data related to the communication;

establishing, ~~according to rules of the first relationship,~~ a first policy chain through the first set of predetermined policies linking ~~communication link between~~ the first layer agent and the second layer agent;

invoking a policy of the second set of predetermined policies in accordance with data received from the second layer agent; and

establishing, ~~according to rules of the second relationship,~~ a second ~~communication link between~~ policy chain through the second set of predetermined policies linking the second layer agent and the third layer agent, the first and second ~~communication links establishing~~ policy chains determining a communication path between the first layer agent and the third layer agent.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the first layer agent is a destination agent, the second layer agent is a node agent, and the third layer agent is a device agent.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Cancelled)

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6.   (Currently amended)   The method of claim [[4]]1, wherein ~~establishing~~ receiving the data related to the communication path includes ~~providing~~ receiving system parameters ~~to the at least one policy~~.

7.   (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein ~~establishing~~ receiving the data related to the communication ~~path~~ includes ~~determining~~ receiving a system time.

8.   (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein ~~establishing~~ receiving the data related to the communication ~~path~~ includes ~~determining~~ receiving a system date.

9.   (Currently amended)   The method of claim 8, wherein ~~establishing~~ receiving the data related to the communication ~~path~~ includes ~~determining~~ receiving a day of week.

10.   (Currently amended)   A data-driven communication system for establishing a data-driven communication path, comprising:
        a first layer agent operable to receive data related to a communication;
        a second layer agent linked ~~having a first relationship~~ to the first layer agent by a first set of predetermined policies such that a first policy chain can be established therebetween, in accordance with the data related to the communication, thereby linking ~~for establishing a first communication link therebetween in response to data provided to~~ the first layer agent to the second layer agent; and
        a third layer agent linked to the second layer agent by a second set of predetermined policies such that a second policy chain can be established therebetween, in accordance with data received from the second layer agent, thereby linking ~~having a second relationship to~~ the second layer agent to the third layer agent and ~~for~~ establishing a data-driven ~~second~~ communication ~~link therebetween in response to data provided by the second~~ path between the first layer agent and the third layer agent.

11.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 10, wherein the first layer agent is a device agent, the second layer agent is a node agent, and the third layer agent is a destination agent.

12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Cancelled)

14.   (Currently amended)   The communication system of claim 10, wherein the ~~first and second~~ communication ~~links form~~ path is a communication path of a half call.

15.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 14, further comprising at least one system feature for modifying the communication path.

16.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is an in-call feature.

17.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is a data modifying feature.

18.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is an advanced programmable system feature.

19.   (Currently amended)   The communication system of claim 10, wherein the first, second and third layer agents are implemented as instances of objects.

20.   (Currently amended)   The communication system of claim 10, further comprising a database having entries corresponding to instances of the first, second and third layer agents.

21.   (Currently amended)   The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database comprises tables corresponding respectively to instances of the first, second and third layer agents.

22.   (Currently amended)   The communication system of claim 21, wherein the database further comprises a table corresponding to the first and second sets of predetermined policies.

23.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 22, including means for configuring the system through the database upon startup.

24.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 22, including means for reconfiguring the system through the database.

25.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 20, further including a user interface for entering changes to the database.

26.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 25, wherein the user interface is a graphical user interface for displaying modifiable icons, representing agents and policies, and modifiable interconnections between them, for facilitating modification of the database.

27.   (Currently amended)   The communication system of claim ~~15~~18, wherein the at least one advanced programmable system feature is triggered by a tone given for a reason.

28.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 27, further comprising a trigger table for determining which of the at least one advanced programmable system features is triggered.

29.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 28, wherein the trigger table points to a policy chain.

30.   (Original)   The communication system of claim of claim 29, wherein the policy chain determines the advanced programmable system feature to be triggered.

31.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 10, wherein a trigger table is associated to an agent.

32.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database includes trigger tables.

33.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database includes advanced programmable system feature definitions.

34.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is triggered by an event in a state.

35.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 34, further comprising a trigger table for determining which of the at least one system features is triggered.

36.   (Original)   The communication system of claim 35, wherein the trigger table points to a policy chain.

37.   (Currently amended)   The communication system of claim of claim ~~37~~36, wherein the policy chain determines the at least one system feature to be triggered.